

WHO SHALL LEAD THE PARTY

General Harrison Continues to Occupy a Position Well Up in the Front.

His Availability and Popularity Make the Impression They Should, and Result in Numerous Additions to His Supporters.

He is Now, with the Exception of Sherman, the Strongest Man in the Race,

And His Chances of Receiving the Principal Honor are Considered Fully Equal with Those of Any of the Other Candidates.

The Associated Press Says He Will Have 120 Votes on the First Ballot.

The First Session of the Great Convention, and the Incidents Connected Therewith—A Great Triumph for the Coasters.

FEATURES OF THE DAY.

STILL GROWING.

Yesterday's developments result in additions to the Harrison strength.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

CHICAGO, June 19.—This has been a day of excitement and maneuvering. The convention is fairly under way and sentiment is rapidly crystallizing.

The result of today's work has been surprising to the friends of several candidates whose chances have been noticeably diminished, and correspondingly gratifying to those of others who have profited at the expense of their competitors.

To the first class belong the adherents of Mr. Sherman and General Allee, to the latter those of General Harrison and Mr. Dewey.

The New York crowd have been especially active, and to-night are making great claims for which there is a show of foundation in fact.

The rapid growth of the Dewey candidacy has had the effect of greatly lessening the chances of both the Ohio and Michigan favorites.

There has, all along, been a suspicion that the putting forward of Mr. Dewey was for the purpose of holding the New York delegation in check for the purpose of transferring it, ultimately, to Mr. Blaine, but the delegation declares in the most emphatic terms that his fight is real and earnest, and that they will hang to him from first to last, or so long as there is any chance for his success.

Their efforts have been chiefly directed, to-day, toward making votes among the delegates from the granger States, but they have only been very moderately successful, however, his friends claim that he has gained no little strength in the Southern States, and are boasting to-night that he will be a good second to Mr. Sherman on the first ballot.

The most important accession gained for him has been in Connecticut, whose delegation is said by the Dewey crowd to have agreed to go almost, if not quite, solely for him.

The serious opposition to the New York man comes from the reliable Republican States of the central West, who urge their opposition on the ground that his nomination would result in a necessary shifting of the issue of the campaign.

They are protesting that if he should be chosen, the Democracy would abandon all tariff discussion, and make their fight in an anti-monopoly campaign.

There has been much talk of combinations between the New Yorkers and Western delegations, but there does not appear to be any really good reason for crediting any of it.

The Harrison men have the greatest reason to be highly encouraged. It is admitted everywhere among delegates in the lobby, on the streets, wherever conversation probabilities are discussed, and that is everywhere, that Indiana possesses the key to the situation in the person of General Harrison.

It has been generally expected that he would have been elected by day until it has become a positive conviction in the minds of all. People who have, within the last day or two, endeavored to throw cold water on his candidacy have been forced to admit that he has become a first among the probabilities.

Delegates who came here undecided have apparently settled upon him as the man for the occasion, after several days of constant and watchful consideration. The zeal which Indiana workers have thrown into the fight has been surprising, and the talk of dissensions and divisions in the State has disappeared as completely as if it had never been indulged in at all. He has been making waves in every direction, and as a result choice leads beyond comparison every competitor for the distinguished honor of a nomination at the hands of the convention.

After the adjournment of the convention this afternoon, the respective committees met to perform the work for which they were appointed, and the Indiana representatives on them had an opportunity to meet at once representatives from every State and Territory.

The talk indulged in was encouraging beyond all expectation. "Stick to your man and you will win," was the cry of many of the people who were in the lobby to-night.

At the same time the people were given by delegates from more than half the States. The corps of newspaper correspondents, who have the best facilities for observing the direction of the drift, are to-night placing Harrison at the very top of the list, and Indiana headquarters is the central rallying point for them during the day.

The Alger men have been perceptibly disheartened to-day by their failure to receive endorsement from the South. The Dewey movement has cut into their ranks, and has partially neutralized the forces of Mr. Sherman. Many colored delegates who have been decorated with Sherman banners used to-day have been talking Dewey to-night. It is considered as quite improbable that Mr. Sherman can succeed. His first strength will almost surely be his greatest, and in very few localities does he appear to be the second choice of delegates. Notwithstanding his acknowledged strength, his leaders have not been able to suggest any combinations by which he is apt to profit, and it is the generally accepted belief that he will not grow in strength.

Mr. Alger is not nearly so likely a quantity as he was yesterday, owing to the considerations above suggested, and Senator Allison's position is relatively what it has been from the outset. He is the one in whom there has been no perceptible change.

This has been a difficult convention to make predictions for; the situation has changed so rapidly and so perceptibly that what has appeared probable one day has been utterly out of consideration the next; but the fact remains that General Harrison has grown steadily in favor, and he is the only candidate that has at no time appeared less favorable than it has at any previous period.

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and so on, for quantity, but it is significant that, so matter how often or how vicariously the political kaleidoscope has been shaken up, General Harrison's force has been left intact. Others have been disguised or disappeared entirely, but the Indiana man has won the same smile of satisfaction from the start.

In the lobby there is no end of talk of Mr. Blaine, but it is evident that it stops there. Wherever his name is mentioned among the delegates it is received with the kindest expressions, but the sentiment is at once expressed that his two letters were written in good faith, and that he must not be regarded as a candidate.

If there is any plan on the part of his friends to bring his name conspicuously forward, it has been the most adroitly concealed bit of political scheming that has yet been indulged in. In fact, there is nothing to indicate that such a scheme has been considered. One of the most prominent friends of Mr. Blaine, one who is generally known as one of the closest advisers, said to me to-night: "There is absolutely nothing in the talk about Mr. Blaine. We recognize the fact that no man in the party stands in the position occupied by him; his friends are legion, but he is positively not a candidate before the convention, and were his nomination possible it would not be permitted. I have no doubt his name will be presented and that he will receive some votes, but he will not be nominated—that is final, and must be so accepted."

The gentleman who makes that statement is one whose name, if mentioned, would convince everybody that he was sincere in his statement. Mr. Blaine is not among the possibilities. I happen to know that the same gentleman has said the same thing to a number of Mr. Blaine's admirers, who will vote for another candidate in consequence. It is also true that he is a warm friend of General Harrison, and is exerting a most potent influence in his behalf. As a matter of fact, the leaders in the Blaine movement of four years ago are the warmest friends of the Indiana man has, and from Blaine's forces will come his greatest strength. Another indication that the delegates accept Mr. Blaine's last letter as a final and preliminary refusal to permit the serious consideration of his name is to be found in the manner in which the delegates received the speech of Chairman Thurston. Judge Thurston is one of the original Blaine men, and his address to the convention made fitting reference to the great leader. His first allusion to the Plumed Knight awakened a perfect tumult of applause and the galleries fairly went wild. People stood up in chairs, waved handkerchiefs and flags and in every way possible gave vent to their enthusiasm, but when, in a subsequent sentence, referring to Mr. Blaine, he said, "We must not commit the political crime of obeying his order," the delegates responded with a unanimity that was surprising. In short, while it is by everyone conceded that no man stands so high in the hearts of his party followers as does Mr. Blaine, it is not considered probable that his nomination will be the result of the balloting.

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Another thing certain is that the convention will nominate no man who is not regarded as a friend of Mr. Blaine. To summarize, General Harrison's nomination is still the logical outcome. There has been nothing from the first that has tended to diminish his strength, but, on the contrary, it has continued to grow and increase in volume. To-night, while Mr. Sherman is undoubtedly the leader at the start, and while the immense prestige of New York's seventy-two votes has given Mr. Dewey, the Indiana man looks more like a winner than either. Seriously, and in all candor, I would rather have his chances for the nomination than those of any other candidate in the field.

At a late hour this evening Governor Proctor, of Vermont, Senator Cheney and Congressman Gallinger, of New Hampshire, walked into the Indiana headquarters, and publicly announced themselves for General Harrison, modestly supplementing the declaration with the statement that if the announcement would do General any good it might be publicly declared. The Indiana crowd was highly pleased, and the Indiana crowd was highly pleased.

It is also stated on what is regarded as reliable and trustworthy authority that the Wisconsin delegation have agreed to vote as a unit for General Harrison after the second ballot.

The Indianapolis Glee Club has paid visits to a dozen different headquarters, and have been warmly received. W. S. R. Tarkenton, O. D. Weaver, J. G. Woodard and John G. Blake, members of the club. At all the headquarters visited, there were cheers given for Harrison and Indiana. The Missouri delegation borrowed one of the Harrison Club's bands to-night, and Kentucky borrowed the other, and each paid a visit to Harrison Club headquarters, where they serenaded the club and cheered lustily for Harrison. The Kentuckians will present the name of W. O. Bradley for Vice-President.

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A Scene of Beauty Such as Has Never Been Equalled on a Similar Occasion.

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On the speaker's desk, which is the same one from which Garfield and Blaine were nominated, the floral decorations are superb. To the right of the stand is a bust of General Logan, draped with the American flag, and on the left, above one of the boxes, is a large painting from the battle of Atlanta, showing the gallant "Black Jack" riding to the front. Mammoth pictures of Lincoln and Grant, festooned in flags, face each other on the north and south walls, and the lamented Garfield's portrait looks down on the arena where the great political battle of the week is to be fought. The mere sight of the great hall and its surroundings is an event in one's life, and the pity is that more cannot be accommodated. The hall will seat 8,100 people, but to-day, at the opening session, there were fully fifteen hundred seats, mostly in the galleries, that were not occupied. This was because many of the tickets were not distributed until a short time before the opening of the convention. The delegates' positions are marked with beautiful blue banners lettered in gilt. Indiana is in the right center of the delegates' space, a good place, and one from which it is not hard to catch the eye of the chairman. The ventilation of the hall by artificial means makes it a delightful place, and the fans that the delegates and visitors brought were not of much use. They were used effectively, however, for cheering when one of the speakers made allusion to the favorite sons.

The opening session was not especially an interesting one. The proceedings were respectfully listened to, but the people were apparently more interested in the sights than in the sounds, and when the long list of committees was announced and the address of Chairman Jones was being read, many got up and went out.

There was a fair sprinkling of Indiana people on the stage and in the galleries, but they were not as numerous as usual at national conventions. Governor Porter and Mayor Denny, accompanied by Hon. Robert Graham, occupied good seats on the first row of the lower gallery immediately in front of the chairman. On the right, in the lower gallery, Moses McClellan had a prominent seat, and the faces of T. P. Haughey, Wm. Wallace and Frank Bird were visible in the crowd. On the stage, Maj. George W. Steele and Gen. Lew Wallace were in comfortable places, but the faces of the Indiana folks were not out looking at the Indiana ticket array. The delegates have been very badly managed. The distribution was delayed until so late an hour that many persons were unable to get into the first session, and the dissatisfaction expressed over this matter was loud and long.

The prayer of Rev. F. W. Gossel was a good Republican invocation, being in harmony with the principles of the party. There is a suspicion that it might have been submitted to the national committee and approved. He had a good voice, and delivered the prayer in a very impressive manner. His allusion to General Sheridan was tender and had great effect. At the close there was applause, which was not inappropriate, considering the cardinal principles of the party on which he asked the Almighty's blessing.

The event of the session, however, was the speech of Chairman Thurston. It was rhetorical, a good piece of work, and, with the fine voice and impressive manner in which it was delivered, it created a favorable impression. His allusion to Blaine was apparently likely to be misunderstood by the convention, but when, after praising and waiting until the cheering had subsided, he said, "We must not commit the political crime of obeying his order," the delegates responded with a unanimity that was surprising. In short, while it is by everyone conceded that no man stands so high in the hearts of his party followers as does Mr. Blaine, it is not considered probable that his nomination will be the result of the balloting.

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The opening session was not especially an interesting one. The proceedings were respectfully listened to, but the people were apparently more interested in the sights than in the sounds, and when the long list of committees was announced and the address of Chairman Jones was being read, many got up and went out.

There was a fair sprinkling of Indiana people on the stage and in the galleries, but they were not as numerous as usual at national conventions. Governor Porter and Mayor Denny, accompanied by Hon. Robert Graham, occupied good seats on the first row of the lower gallery immediately in front of the chairman. On the right, in the lower gallery, Moses McClellan had a prominent seat, and the faces of T. P. Haughey, Wm. Wallace and Frank Bird were visible in the crowd. On the stage, Maj. George W. Steele and Gen. Lew Wallace were in comfortable places, but the faces of the Indiana folks were not out looking at the Indiana ticket array. The delegates have been very badly managed. The distribution was delayed until so late an hour that many persons were unable to get into the first session, and the dissatisfaction expressed over this matter was loud and long.

The prayer of Rev. F. W. Gossel was a good Republican invocation, being in harmony with the principles of the party. There is a suspicion that it might have been submitted to the national committee and approved. He had a good voice, and delivered the prayer in a very impressive manner. His allusion to General Sheridan was tender and had great effect. At the close there was applause, which was not inappropriate, considering the cardinal principles of the party on which he asked the Almighty's blessing.

The event of the session, however, was the speech of Chairman Thurston. It was rhetorical, a good piece of work, and, with the fine voice and impressive manner in which it was delivered, it created a favorable impression. His allusion to Blaine was apparently likely to be misunderstood by the convention, but when, after praising and waiting until the cheering had subsided, he said, "We must not commit the political crime of obeying his order," the delegates responded with a unanimity that was surprising. In short, while it is by everyone conceded that no man stands so high in the hearts of his party followers as does Mr. Blaine, it is not considered probable that his nomination will be the result of the balloting.

One of the encouraging features of the convention talk is to be found in the fact that wherever the name of Mr. Blaine is mentioned that of General Harrison is coupled with it in admiration, and the friends of the first are friends of the Indiana journal.

Another thing certain is that the convention will nominate no man who is not regarded as a friend of Mr. Blaine. To summarize, General Harrison's nomination is still the logical outcome. There has been nothing from the first that has tended to diminish his strength, but, on the contrary, it has continued to grow and increase in volume. To-night, while Mr. Sherman is undoubtedly the leader at the start, and while the immense prestige of New York's seventy-two votes has given Mr. Dewey, the Indiana man looks more like a winner than either. Seriously, and in all candor, I would rather have his chances for the nomination than those of any other candidate in the field.

At a late hour this evening Governor Proctor, of Vermont, Senator Cheney and Congressman Gallinger, of New Hampshire, walked into the Indiana headquarters, and publicly announced themselves for General Harrison, modestly supplementing the declaration with the statement that if the announcement would do General any good it might be publicly declared. The Indiana crowd was highly pleased, and the Indiana crowd was highly pleased.

It is also stated on what is regarded as reliable and trustworthy authority that the Wisconsin delegation have agreed to vote as a unit for General Harrison after the second ballot.

The Indianapolis Glee Club has paid visits to a dozen different headquarters, and have been warmly received. W. S. R. Tarkenton, O. D. Weaver, J. G. Woodard and John G. Blake, members of the club. At all the headquarters visited, there were cheers given for Harrison and Indiana. The Missouri delegation borrowed one of the Harrison Club's bands to-night, and Kentucky borrowed the other, and each paid a visit to Harrison Club headquarters, where they serenaded the club and cheered lustily for Harrison. The Kentuckians will present the name of W. O. Bradley for Vice-President.

INSIDE THE HALL.

A Scene of Beauty Such as Has Never Been Equalled on a Similar Occasion.

the right of the stand is a bust of General Logan, draped with the American flag, and on the left, above one of the boxes, is a large painting from the battle of Atlanta, showing the gallant "Black Jack" riding to the front. Mammoth pictures of Lincoln and Grant, festooned in flags, face each other on the north and south walls, and the lamented Garfield's portrait looks down on the arena where the great political battle of the week is to be fought. The mere sight of the great hall and its surroundings is an event in one's life, and the pity is that more cannot be accommodated. The hall will seat 8,100 people, but to-day, at the opening session, there were fully fifteen hundred seats, mostly in the galleries, that were not occupied. This was because many of the tickets were not distributed until a short time before the opening of the convention. The delegates' positions are marked with beautiful blue banners lettered in gilt. Indiana is in the right center of the delegates' space, a good place, and one from which it is not hard to catch the eye of the chairman. The ventilation of the hall by artificial means makes it a delightful place, and the fans that the delegates and visitors brought were not of much use. They were used effectively, however, for cheering when one of the speakers made allusion to the favorite sons.